

First Inventor: Kevin A. Thomas
Application No. 10/762,204
Page 11

MA9665P

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

MAY 01 2007

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 12, 30, 35 and 45-47. Care has been taken to avoid adding new matter. Claims 1-48 are presently pending in the application.

The Office Action rejected various claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, § 102(b) and § 103(a). Regarding these rejections, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Casey Shea Hagopian for the Examiner Interviews conducted with Applicants' representative, Kenton R. Mullins, on April 30, 2007 and May 1, 2007, at which times it was indicated by Examiner Hagopian, without having reviewed the case in sufficient detail to make a final decision, that the independent claims as presently amended would appear to overcome the current rejections of record. It was suggested that submission of the current Amendment by Applicants may result in withdrawal of the outstanding prior-art rejections to the extent the claims reflect the content discussed in the referenced Examiner Interviews, which they do. Examiner Hagopian reserved the right to review the case in greater detail and to conduct an update search. Accordingly, as a result of the mentioned Examiner Interviews, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, § 102 and § 103.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions

Respectfully submitted,



Kenton R. Mullins
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36,331

Dated: May 1, 2007

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
Tel: 949-450-1750
Fax: 949-450-1764